

soonest Traffic and Safety Committee meeting agenda practicable for review.

- (5) The Traffic and Safety Committee shall act as a quasi-judicial body allowing the animal's owner an opportunity to present evidence as to why the animal should not be declared a prohibited dangerous dog.
 - (6) Pending the outcome of the hearing, the animal may be confined subject to Sec. 173.21, Wis. Stats., or held at a location outside the Village limits at the owner's expense.
 - (7) After the hearing, once the Traffic and Safety Committee has made a decision the owner shall be immediately notified of the decision in writing by certified mail. If a decision is made that the animal is a prohibited dangerous dog, the owner shall comply with order to remove the dog from the Village within five days after receiving the written decision, if not already removed.
 - (8) If the owner further contests the Traffic and Safety Committee's decision, he or she may, within five days of receiving the written decision, seek review of the decision by the Circuit Court.
 - (9) If the declared dangerous dog is not removed from the Village within 10 days of it being declared dangerous by the humane officer, owner's omission, quasi-judicial hearing, another Wisconsin municipality or appeal, it may be seized and ordered destroyed pursuant to Sec. 174.02(3), Wis. Stats.
- (G) MANNER AND PROCEDURE FOR DESTRUCTION OF DANGEROUS DOGS. Whenever an officer or veterinarian is required to destroy a dangerous dog, the animal shall be destroyed in a humane manner which avoids damage to the animal's head.
- (H) EXEMPTION FOR POLICE DOGS. The provisions of this ordinance regarding dangerous dogs shall not apply to dogs owned by law enforcement agencies and used for law enforcement purposes.

6.11 BEE KEEPING.

The keeping and/or raising of bees is a public nuisance, and is prohibited within the Village of Allouez.

6.12 KEEPING ANIMALS.

- A. The keeping and/or raising of farm animals including but not limited to goats, pigs, cows, roosters, ponies, or horses is hereby declared to be a public nuisance, and is prohibited within any area zoned residential by the zoning regulations of the Village unless upon property constituting a farm of at least 10 contiguous acres. Hens may be kept with a license.
- B. The keeping and/or raising of any animal, fowl, reptile, mammal, or bird which affects or disturbs the public health, public peace, public safety, or public decency is a public nuisance,



Official Website of the City of Milwaukee

CALL for Action (414) 286-CITY | Click for Action

Directory

Residents

Business

Visitors

Department of Neighborhood Services

Building in the City

Request Services

Property Information

Forms & Apps

Programs

Keeping Beekeeping Safe in the City of Milwaukee



Importance of Honeybees

The honeybee (*apis mellifera*) is a critical pollinator for flowers, fruits and vegetables. This is of great benefit in the city where pollinating insect populations are usually significantly smaller than in rural areas. Managed colonies of bees help to increase the yields and the quality of a large variety of plants found in backyard gardens, municipal parks, and flowerbeds.

Hives of honeybees are currently established in most every major city in the United States. Beehives are successfully kept in small back yards, on balconies and rooftops in congested urban environments with little, if any, impact to adjacent property owners.

In addition to the benefits of plant pollination, the honey, beeswax, pollen and other hive products are high in nutritional value and are a local, renewable and sustainable resource.



Honeybee Behavior

Honeybees are naturally gentle and non-aggressive. They may sting if they perceive a threat to their colony, but only as a last resort as the bee will die shortly after depositing its stinger. While foraging for nectar and pollen away from the colony, honeybees are completely docile and only concerned with the tasks they set out to do. In most cases, people living in close proximity of beehives will never know that the honeybees are around.



Resources for the Beekeeper and the Curious

The state of Wisconsin Department of Agriculture provides a great, free hive inspection service in the Spring and Fall, through Craig Petros, State Apiary Inspector. Call 262-968-5391.

There are also local beekeeping associations and classes available to provide the training, mentoring and resources necessary for the new beekeeper:

University of Wisconsin Cooperative Extension offers a Certified Beekeeper Course 414-256-4600 <http://milwaukee.uwex.edu>

Milwaukee Waukesha Beekeeping Association www.mwbeekeepers.org Meets monthly and provides workshops, mentoring, networking, a lending library and other helpful resources.



Beekeeping Ordinance

In 2010, the City of Milwaukee passed an ordinance (Chapter 78-6 Milwaukee Code of Ordinances) allowing people to keep up to two colonies of honeybees on private property within the City limits. A permit and inspection is required. Permit applications may be obtained from the Department of Neighborhood Services Environmental Section at the address listed in this brochure. A simple map of the apiary and surrounding area with dimensions must be provided. Neighbors within 200 feet will be notified and given an opportunity to voice any concerns they may have. You might also be required to get written permission from your immediate neighbors, should your hives be within 50 feet of their dwellings or certain structures. Proof of beekeeping competency must be provided.



Your Responsibilities

If you plan to keep honeybees in the City of Milwaukee, it is best to talk to your neighbors ahead of time, and explain the behavior and benefits of beekeeping. Be prepared to address their concerns, as your neighbors will have a voice in the permit approval process. Beekeeping in the city should utilize best practices to avoid creating problems for your neighbors. With some planning, beehives can be safely located in close proximity to homes, gardens and other places where people spend recreational time. You will be responsible for monitoring your bees on a regular basis for the health of the hive and to ensure that you have not created a nuisance to others. Limit your beekeeping activities to times when it will not interfere with your neighbors' activities and enjoyment of their property.



Wasps & Hornets

Wasps, hornets and yellow jackets are normally bright yellow and black, and are normally aggressive. They are often mistaken for honeybees. They nest in the ground, or above in a grey paper structure. They will sting without provocation, and can sting repeatedly. Wasps and hornets can be eliminated with common wasp sprays, and the use of soapy water in a spray or drench. The City does NOT remove these nests. For problem infestations, contact your local pest management firm.



Permit and General Information

Bee Keeping/ Apiary Application This is the application that must be completed and brought to the DNS offices to apply for a permit to keep bees. [Site Plan](#)

Please complete a site plan, and submit it with check or money order to Milwaukee Department of Neighborhood Services 4001 South 6th Street, 2nd Floor Milwaukee, WI 53221 414-286-5771.

Websites

- <http://mwba1.tripod.com>
- <http://mwbeekeepers.org>
- www.honey.com
- www.lappsbeesupply.com
- www.dadant.com
- <http://www.beeculture.com/>
- www.city.milwaukee.gov

For a brochure of this information click Here -->[Bee Brochure](#)

Last Update

08/07/15

Beekeeping Brochure



**Beekeeping
in the
City of Milwaukee**

- **Information on keeping hives**
- **Application process for approval**
- **Tips on keeping bees**
- **Resources for beekeepers**



Helpful Tips from the
City of Milwaukee
Department of
Neighborhood
Services

DNS-309 Bee_Brochure V2.13NW 6/24/15

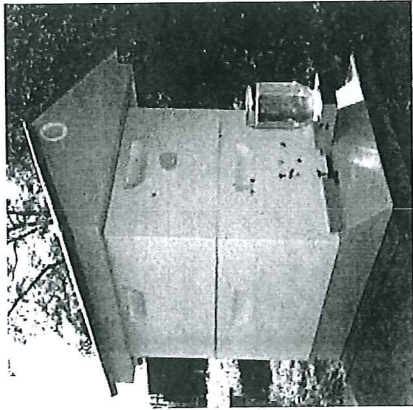
Mayor Tom Barrett
Common Council

Departments
Calendar

Residents
Business
Visitors

Web & Email Policies
Web Contact Us

Design by City of Milwaukee



Additional Bee Keeping Resources

There are also local beekeeping associations and classes available to provide the training, mentoring and resources necessary for the new beekeeper:

University of Wisconsin Cooperative Extension offers a Certified Beekeeper Course
414-256-4600
<http://milwaukee.uwex.edu>

Milwaukee Waukesha Beekeeping Association
www.mwbeekeepers.org Meets monthly and provides workshops, mentoring, networking, a lending library and other helpful resources.

Wasps & Hornets

Wasps, hornets and yellow jackets are normally bright yellow and black, and are normally aggressive. They are often mistaken for honeybees. They nest in the ground, or above in a grey paper structure. They will sting without provocation, and can sting repeatedly. Wasps and hornets can be eliminated with common wasp sprays, and the use of soapy water in a spray or drench. The City does NOT remove these nests. For problem infestations, contact your local pest management firm.



The beekeeper is installing a colony of honeybees in a new hive.

Permit and General Information:

Milwaukee Department of Neighborhood Services
4001 South 6th Street, 2nd Floor
Milwaukee, WI 53221
414-286-5771

Websites:

- <http://mwba1.tripod.com>
- <http://mwbeekeepers.org>
- www.honey.com
- www.lappsbeesupply.com
- www.dadant.com
- www.beeculture.com
- www.city.milwaukee.gov

Produced by
Department of
Neighborhood Services
841 N. Broadway Room 104
Milwaukee WI 53202
(414) 286-2268



Beekeeping in the City of Milwaukee

- Information on keeping hives
- Application process for approval
- Tips on keeping bees
- Resources for beekeepers



Helpful Tips from the
City of Milwaukee
Department of
Neighborhood
Services



A worker honeybee gathers pollen from clover growing on a City boulevard.

Keeping beekeeping safe in the City of Milwaukee

Importance of Honeybees

The honeybee (*apis mellifera*) is a critical pollinator for flowers, fruits and vegetables. This is of great benefit in the city where pollinating insect populations are usually significantly smaller than in rural areas. Managed colonies of bees help to increase the yields and the quality of a large variety of plants found in backyard gardens, municipal parks, and flowerbeds.

Hives of honeybees are currently established in most every major city in the United States. Beehives are successfully kept in small back yards, on balconies and rooftops in congested urban environments with little, if any, impact to adjacent property owners.

In addition to the benefits of plant pollination, the honey, beeswax, pollen and other hive products are high in nutritional value and are a local, renewable and sustainable resource.

Beekeeping Ordinance

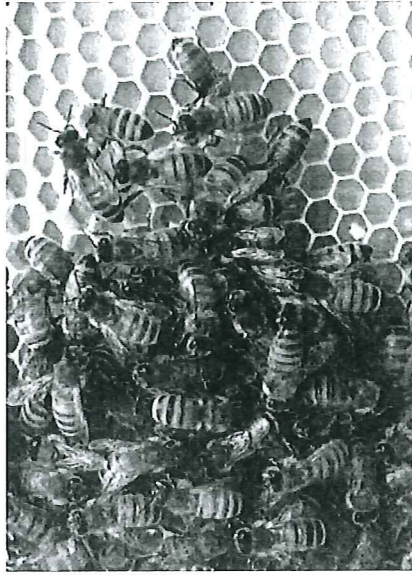
In 2010, the City of Milwaukee passed an ordinance (**Chapter 78-6 Milwaukee Code of Ordinances**) allowing people to keep up to two colonies of honeybees on private property within the City limits. A permit and inspection is required. Permit applications may be obtained from the Department of Neighborhood Services Environmental Section at the address listed in this brochure.

A simple map of the apiary and surrounding area with dimensions must be provided. Neighbors within 200 feet will be notified and given an opportunity to voice any concerns they may have. You might also be required to get written permission from your immediate neighbors, should your hives be within 50 feet of their dwellings or certain structures. Proof of beekeeping competency must be provided.



Honeybee Behavior

Honeybees are naturally gentle and non-aggressive. They may sting if they perceive a threat to their colony, but only as a last resort as the bee will die shortly after depositing its stinger. While foraging for nectar and pollen away from the colony, honeybees are completely docile and only concerned with the tasks they set out to do. In most cases, people living in close proximity of beehives will never know that the honeybees are around.



A typical frame of bees inside a beehive, showing worker bees drawing out wax cells and filling them with honey.

Your Responsibilities

If you plan to keep honeybees in the City of Milwaukee, it is best to talk to your neighbors ahead of time, and explain the behavior and benefits of beekeeping. Be prepared to address their concerns, as your neighbors will have a voice in the permit approval process.

Beekeeping in the city should utilize best practices to avoid creating problems for your neighbors. With some planning, beehives can be safely located in close proximity to homes, gardens and other places where people spend recreational time.

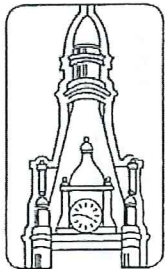
You will be responsible for monitoring your bees on a regular basis for the health of the hive and to ensure that you have not created a nuisance to others.

Limit your beekeeping activities to times when it will not interfere with your neighbors' activities and enjoyment of their property.

Resources for the Beekeeper and the Curious

The state of Wisconsin Department of Agriculture provides a great, free hive inspection service in the Spring and Fall, through Craig Petros, State Apiary Inspector. Call 262-968-5391.

(continued on back panel)



**City of Milwaukee
Department of
Neighborhood Services
Environmental Section**

Beekeeping/Apiary Application
\$81.12 permit fee*

4001 S 6th St., 2nd fl., Milwaukee, WI 53221 (414) 286-3280

Address of Apiary: _____

OPERATOR NAME: _____ **HOME PHONE NUMBER** _____

ADDRESS: _____ **CELL PHONE NUMBER** _____

- () **OWNER AUTHORIZATION MUST BE ATTACHED OR YOU MUST BE THE PROPERTY OWNER**
- () **SITE MAP MUST BE ATTACHED**
- () **PROOF OF BEE KEEPING COMPETENCY MUST BE ATTACHED**

The undersigned agrees to inform the Department of Neighborhood Services within ten days of any substantial changes in the information supplied in this application.

I have a knowledge of the City Ordinances currently regulating the permit applied for herein and being duly sworn under oath, depose and say that I am the person named above and that all statements made in the foregoing application are true and correct.

I also certify that the honey bees used in this apiary are limited to Eastern European races of Apismelifera in accordance with Milwaukee Code of Ordinances 78-6-3b. *All fees include a 1.4% training and technology surcharge.

(Individual/Registered Agent/Corporate Officer/Partner)

RETURN WITH APPROPRIATE FEE TO:

**DEPARTMENT OF NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES
4001 S 6th St., 2nd floor
MILWAUKEE, WI 53221**

DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS LINE

Clerical _____ Date Issued _____ Bee Permit # _____
Date of Notice _____ # of notices sent _____ # of objections _____ # in support _____
Request for hearing? Y N Hearing date _____ Result of hearing? Approve Deny

Should neighbors be allowed to object to beekeeping?

Grant Rodgers 7:55 p.m. CDT April 16, 2015

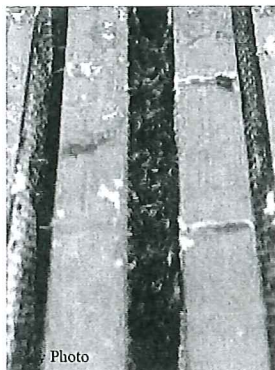


(Photo: Doug Raflik/Action Reporter Media)

Beekeeping could soon be legal in Fond du Lac backyards if city council members find balance between beekeepers' wishes and potential safety concerns from neighbors.

A proposed Fond du Lac ordinance would put conditions on in-city beekeepers, including a limit of two hives per property and a requirement that hives be built at least 25 feet from property edges. City Attorney Deborah Hoffman presented a draft of the ordinance at an April 8 city council meeting.

Milwaukee and Madison approved beekeeping in residential neighborhoods in 2010 and 2012, respectively, when avid beekeepers promoted the hobby as inexpensive fun that benefits the environment. City Council member Gary Miller supports allowing residential beekeeping in Fond du Lac, but any ordinance should allow a person whose property is next to a beekeeper's to object before a permit is issued, he said.



Photo

Neighbors with bee sting allergies – which can be fatal in severe cases – might be especially keen to object, Miller said. City Council President Samuel Meyer said he'd support a notification process, similar to how neighbors get a letter before the council makes zoning changes to a property.

"I personally would like to see a provision where, if a neighbor's property immediately abuts against a beekeeper property ... that objection would at least be considered," Miller said. "I basically favor beekeeping. I understand that if you don't swat them, you're not in trouble."

The City of Fond du Lac Plan Commission met on April 13 to discuss a zoning ordinance amendment that establishes where a bee hive would be placed on property, allowable heights and setbacks. Joellyn Dahlin, the city's principal planner, said the Commission recommended that the City Council approve the amendment.

A swarm of honey bees keep warm by staying close together in a hive on a recent cool morning at Clifford Sweet's property. (Photo: Doug Raflik/Action Reporter Media)

Beekeeper Denise Palkovich, who's taught a class on the hobby through the Fond du Lac County University of Wisconsin-Extension, believes the requirements suggested by Miller and Meyer are unnecessary. A lot of people are misinformed about honey bees, which typically only attack when they're provoked, she said.

Buy Photo



A honeybee ventures out of its hive on a recent cool morning at beekeeper Clifford Sweet's property in rural Brandon. (Photo: Doug Raflik/Action Reporter Media)

If notification is required, there's potential for neighbors who simply see beekeeping as a nuisance to object, Palkovich said.

"Even if you didn't have a beekeeping ordinance, you're not going to stop bees or wasps at the city limits," she said.

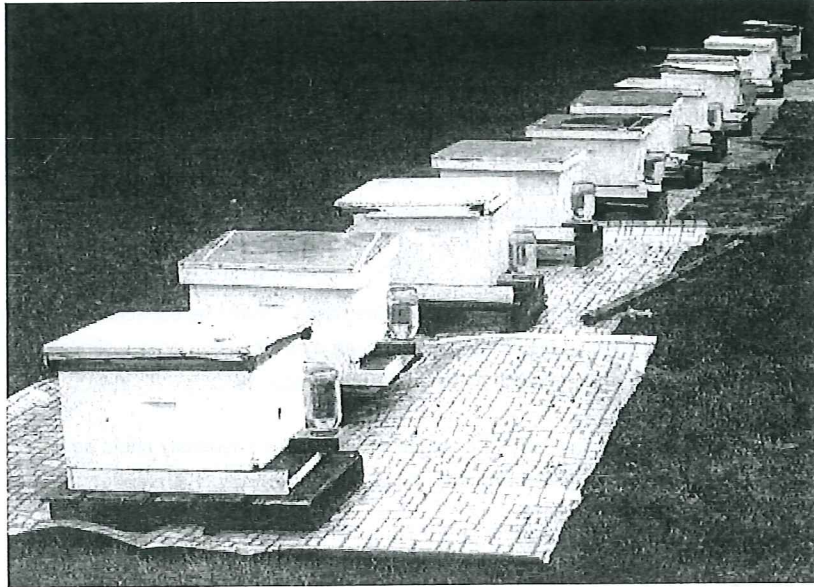
Should neighbors be allowed to object to beekeeping?

In Madison the ordinance requires an aspiring beekeeper to notify neighbors before turning in a license application to the city. Under Milwaukee's ordinance the city notifies all neighbors within 200 feet and gives them a chance to object to a new hive. The city can also require a beekeeper to get a neighbor's written permission if a hive sits within 50 feet of the neighbor's house.

Longtime Fond du Lac County beekeeper Clifford Sweet has watched the popularity of "urban beekeeping" grow. Sweet got into the hobby when he and his wife moved to five rural acres in 1972. They wanted to raise animals, but were worried chickens would attract rats.

"We thought, 'What can you do with five acres?'," he said. "Honey bees are clean," he said. "You don't have to worry about cleaning up after them."

Buy Photo



Beehives sit in the backyard of beekeeper Clifford Sweet in rural Brandon. (Photo: Doug Raffik/Action Reporter Media)

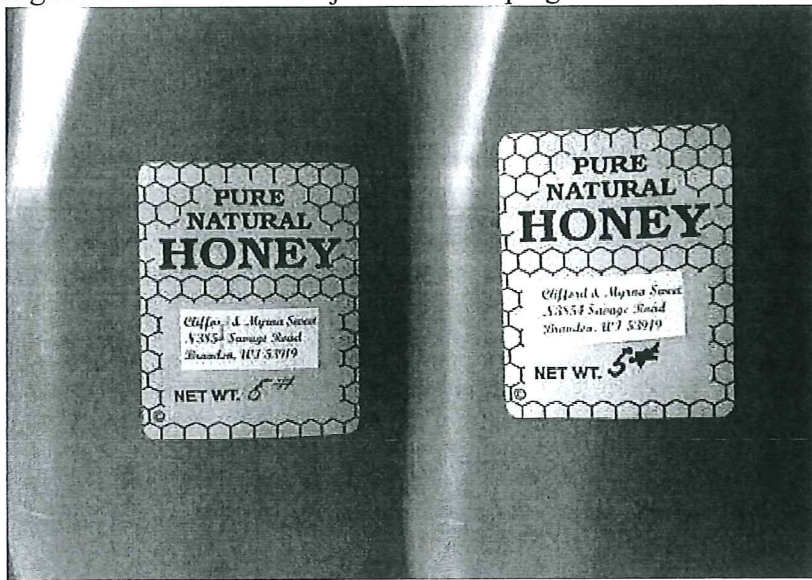
Given their cleanliness, raising honeybees could be a perfect hobby for city dwellers looking to live a little off the land, Sweet said. A starter kit with the equipment can be purchased for just under \$175 (not including the bees).

Council member Catherine Block said she'd favor allowing neighbors to raise objections, but only those who show proof of an allergy. As a child, Block's father kept honey bees. She's also allergic to stings and carries an EpiPen to counter the shock if she's stung, she said.

"I sympathize with people who are allergic to bees, but having grown up for 11 or 12 years with bees all around me, I was only stung once," she said. "I think the risk to neighbors is pretty minimal and minor."

A revised ordinance that includes giving notification to neighbors will come back before the council, City Manager Joseph Moore said.

The five-page drafted ordinance also includes a 5-foot height limit on all hives and a requirement that beekeepers keep a water supply on their property at all times. Water is essential to honey bees, and they have been known to collect around swimming pools if other sources aren't readily available, Palkovich said.



Jugs of honey produced by bees owned by Clifford Sweet of rural Brandon. (Photo: Doug Raflik/Action Reporter Media)

A beekeeper in a residential Fond du Lac neighborhood would have to apply for a license yearly, and the city could revoke the license if a hive is deemed a nuisance. Beekeepers must also get seven hours of training. The Fond du Lac County UW-Extension offers an annual seven-hour "beginning beekeeping" course taught over three days in February, March and June.

Palkovich said she encourages beekeepers to speak with neighbors about the hobby before installing a hive. Beekeepers could also let any worried neighbors examine the contraptions and learn the difference between honey bees and wasps, which are more aggressive insects. "We talk about being good beekeeping neighbors," she said.

Under the draft ordinance, in-city beekeepers would not be allowed to sell their honey or use bees for any other "commercial" purposes.

Nationwide, honey bees are important pollinators of flowers. The U.S. Department of Agriculture estimates honey bees add \$15 billion in crop value annually by pollinating almond crops, berries and other fruits and vegetables. In Fond du Lac, beekeeping is already legal in any area of the city zoned for agriculture use.

Learn more

John Deere Riesterer & Schnell in Fond du Lac is hosting a "Morning with a Beekeeper" on Saturday, April 25, for anybody interested in learning about the hobby. Denise Palkovich will be giving the clinic from 9 a.m. to noon, and will cover best practices for setting up a hive and different kinds of products that can be made from honey.

Riesterer & Schnell is located at W4037 State Highway 23, Fond du Lac.

Read or Share this story: <http://fondulac/1yzpid8>

